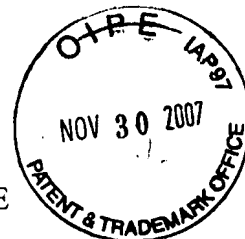


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Werner FUCHS et al.

Confirmation No.: 1651

Appln. No. : 10/582,113

Group Art Unit: 1723

Filed : June 8, 2006

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For : MEMBRANE FILTER SYSTEM COMPRISING PARALLEL CROSS-FLOW
FILTER MODULES

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop _____
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria VA 22314

Sir:

Further to the Information Disclosure Statement filed February 5, 2007, and in accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-1.98, Applicants hereby direct the Examiner's attention to the following information, which includes documents cited in the International Search Report, dated June 16, 2006 conducted in International Patent Application No. PCT/EP2005/056382, which is related to the above-captioned application. In particular, the Examiner cited:

(1) European Patent Application No. 0 734 758 A published October 2, 1996, cited as an "X" category document (i.e., a document that calls into question the novelty or inventive step when considered alone) with regard to claims 1, 5-7, 9 and 14 of PCT/EP2005/056382. The Examiner also cited European Patent Application No. 0 734 758 A as an "A" category document (i.e., technological background) with regard to claims 2-4, 8 and 13 of PCT/EP2005/056382.

The Examiner identified the Abstract, Figure 1, and Column 2, lines 26-29 as being particularly relevant;

(2) European Patent Application No. 0 659 694 A published June 28, 1995, cited as an "X" category document with regard to claims 1 and 6-12 of PCT/EP2005/056382. The Examiner also cited European Patent Application No. 0 659 694 A as an "A" category document with regard to claims 2-4 and 13 of PCT/EP2005/056382. The Examiner identified the Abstract and Figure 1 as being particularly relevant. Moreover, for the Examiner's convenience, Applicants identify U.S. Patent No. 5,494,577 A issued February 27, 1996 to Rekers, which is identified by the Annex to the Search Report as a U.S. patent family member of the above-cited European Patent Application;

(3) International Publication No. WO 01/00307 A published January 4, 2001, cited as an "X" category document with regard to claims 1 and 5-7 of PCT/EP2005/056382. The Examiner also cited International Publication No. WO 01/00307 A as an "A" category document with regard to claims 2-4 and 13 of PCT/EP2005/056382. The Examiner identified the Abstract and Figure 4 as being particularly relevant;

(4) Japanese Patent Application No. 2003/144870 A published May 20, 2003, cited as an "X" category document with regard to claims 1, 6, 8, 9 and 11 of PCT/EP2005/056382. The Examiner identified the Abstract and figure 4 as being particularly relevant; and

(5) International Publication No. WO 02/26363 A published April 4, 2002, cited as an "A" category document with regard to claims 1-13 of PCT/EP2005/056382. The Examiner identified the entire document as being particularly relevant.

The following documents were cited in the Written Office Action of the International Searching Authority (PCT/ISA/237), dated June 16, 2005, conducted in International Patent

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Application No. PCT/EP2005/056382, which is a counterpart of the above-captioned application.

In particular, the Examiner cited:

- (6) European Patent Application No. 0 734 758 A, cited above as item (1);
- (7) European Patent Application No. 0 659 694 A, cited above as item (2);
- (8) International Publication No. WO 01/00307, cited above as item (3);
- (9) Japanese Patent Application No. 2003/144870 A, cited above as item (4); and
- (10) International Publication No. WO 02/26363 A, cited above as item (5).

The following documents were cited in the International Preliminary Report on Patentability (PCT/IPEA/409), dated March 30, 2007, conducted in International Patent Application No. PCT/EP2005/056382, which is a counterpart of the above-captioned application.

In particular, the Examiner cited:

- (11) European Patent Application No. 0 734 758 A, cited above as item (1); and
- (12) European Patent Application No. 0 659 694 A, cited above as item (2).

Each of the above-cited documents are listed on the enclosed completed copy of the PTO-1449 Form. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to consider these documents and to indicate such consideration by returning a signed and initialed copy of the PTO-1449 Form with the first official communication.

Moreover, copies of the International Search Report, an English-language translation of the International Preliminary Report on Patentability, the Written Office Action of the International Searching Authority, a partial English-language translation of the Written Office Action of the International Searching Authority and the cited non-U.S. patent documents are being submitted herewith. However, pursuant to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's decision to waive the requirement under 37 C.F.R. 1.98 (a)(2)(i), copies of the cited/listed U.S.

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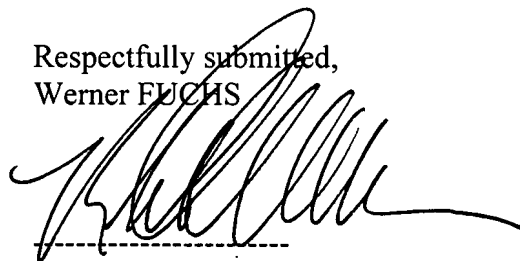
patents and U.S. published patent applications are not enclosed herewith. Moreover, if any copies are needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Applicants note that while this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months from the filing date, Applicants have not received a first action on the merits from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Accordingly, consideration of the enclosed document is required under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)(3).

However, if the first action on the merit has been mailed prior to the filing date of this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicants hereby authorize the Commissioner to charge any fees necessary to ensure consideration of the documents cited herein to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Should there be any questions or comments, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Werner FUCHS

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Neil F. Greenblum', is written over a horizontal dashed line.

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